

Witness Name : Jason Matthew Allday

Statement No : First

Exhibits: JMA1-JMA5

Dated :

Witness Statement of Jason Matthew Allday

I, Jason Matthew Allday, will say as follows:-

1. I am a Level 7 Network Engineer employed by Cadent Gas Ltd ("Cadent"). I was part of the Emergency Response and Repair team who attended the fire at Grenfell Tower during the 14 and 15 June 2017.
2. I have previously made one witness statement to the Metropolitan Police Service ("MPS") in relation to the Grenfell Tower fire (MET00012710). That statement dealt in detail with Cadent's operation to isolate the supply of gas to the Tower. This is my first statement to the Inquiry and I make this statement to supplement the first statement I made to the MPS and, specifically, to provide further information to the Inquiry about the maps we used on 14 June 2017 to assist with our operation to isolate the supply of gas and about Pressure Reduction Stations (often referred to as "Governors") and how the gas network in the area around Grenfell Tower ("the Tower") is integrated.

Maps

3. All Cadent field force engineers have access to Cadent's digital mapping system via portable laptops which are known as GoBooks. GoBooks are also used to accept jobs, liaise with the Dispatch Centre and request further resources. On the night of the fire, in order to assist with our understanding of where the mains in the vicinity of the Tower were located we used the map viewer application available on GoBook.

4. I attach as my Exhibit JMA1 screen shots of the maps available on the GoBook which we used on the night of the fire. These are the maps that I refer to at paragraph 24 of my statement to the MPS (MET00012710). As I explain in my first statement to the MPS, as soon as I arrived on site, I reviewed the maps of the network to help identify the best way of isolating the supply of gas to the Tower under the circumstances.
5. We arranged for paper copies of these maps to be available on site; the screen shots of the maps were printed in a local printing shop. I attach as my Exhibit JMA2 an e-mail from David Edwards to myself and my colleagues Tony Day and Peter Baynard attaching the maps. David Edwards also sent the maps to other colleagues at 15:56 and he states in that e-mail that paper copies of the maps were available on site.
6. In addition, on his way to the Tower, my colleague Neale Milam stopped at our Fulham depot and printed maps which he brought with him to the site. The hard copies of these maps are no longer available. However, the maps would have displayed the same asset data as the maps attached to my Exhibit JMA1. Neale Milam was however able to print the maps on a much larger scale because of the facilities available in the Fulham Depot.
7. For the avoidance of any doubt, I should clarify that the map exhibited to my first MPS statement was produced after 14 June 2017 and was annotated by me. The map was produced specifically for the purpose of preparing my witness statement and to assist the MPS with its investigation.

Governors

8. Turning now to the Governors and how the gas network in the area around the Tower is integrated. A brief explanation as to how the gas distribution network operates may assist. All gas in the UK passes through the national transmission system ("NTS") which is owned and operated by National Grid. Gas leaves the NTS and is transported around the Country via the distribution networks. Cadent owns and operates four of the UK's gas distribution networks, including the North London distribution network where the Tower was located. From the distribution networks, gas is fed into local distribution zones and is distributed to customers via a series of

pressure tiers. Governors take gas from the medium pressure system to the low pressure system. Governors feed the low pressure mains and are designed to reduce the pressure of gas before it is then supplied to properties at low pressure.

9. A small village in the UK may be fed by one Governor. The configuration of the gas network in London is very different to that of a small village; there are a number of zones supplied by a number Governors. It is a complex network that has been designed to ensure continuity of supply to gas customers for around 200 years.
10. To assist in illustrating how the gas network in London is configured, I attach as exhibits to this statement maps showing the gas network in the area around the Tower. The map at Exhibit JMA3 shows:
 - a. The Governors in the area around the Tower; and
 - b. The low pressure mains in the area around the Tower.
11. The red lines on this map are the low pressure mains. These are the mains that deliver gas to consumers. The Governors, which feed the low pressure mains, are shown on the map with a brown arrow. The location of the Tower is also shown on this map.
12. The map attached as my Exhibit JMA4 is a replica of the map at Exhibit JMA3. However, the low pressure mains have been highlighted in different colours to illustrate how the local low pressure network is influenced by each of the Governors.
13. The low pressure mains marked in red show the area of influence of the Latimer Road Governor. The low pressure mains marked in green show the area of influence of the Canterbury Road Governor, and so on. It should be noted that there is not a precise boundary between the zones of influence; this will change depending on relative gas demands in the area as the Governors operate on demand to maintain gas pressure across the network, not within specific zones.
14. On 14 June 2017, following a call to the National Gas Emergency Service, Cadent's Emergency Response and Repair team attended the site of the Tower and isolated the supply of gas to the Tower. In my statement to the police (MET00012710), I deal

in detail with Cadent's operation to isolate the supply of gas to the Tower which was achieved by isolating three separate gas mains in the vicinity of the Tower. In this

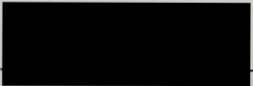
statement I have been asked to explain whether isolating the supply of gas could have been achieved by shutting down the Latimer Road Governor.

15. The answer in short is that isolating the supply of gas to the Tower could not have been achieved by shutting down the Latimer Road Governor. To help illustrate why it could not have been achieved, I attach as my Exhibit JMA5 a map which has been produced to show what would happen in the event that the Governor at Latimer Road were shut down.
16. If the Governor at Latimer Road were shut down, nearby Governors, in particular the Kensal Green Governor (the light blue low pressure mains show the area of influence of that particular Governor), would automatically compensate and in order to maintain the supply of gas, would effectively push gas into the zone around the Tower (the red zone on exhibit JMA4). This can be seen from the map at Exhibit JMA5; the area influenced by the Kensal Green Governor now includes the area around the Tower.
17. The Governors within the London network operate on demand and as this map illustrates, if one Governor were shut down, other Governors within the area would automatically identify the loss of supply and compensate by pushing more gas into the relevant part of the network.
18. In order to isolate the supply of gas into the Tower by shutting down Governors, it would have been necessary to shut down a number of Governors by sending engineers to site to operate and turn off the valves. In order to guarantee isolation of gas to the Tower, it would also have been necessary to carry out excavation work and physically isolate the mains, which is what we in fact did to isolate the supply of gas to the Tower. Shutting down the local Governors would not therefore have obviated the need to carry out physical excavations and isolate the mains.

19. Shutting down the local Governors to isolate the supply of gas to the Tower would have been a much more complex operation and it would have taken much longer to complete in comparison to the operation we chose to implement on 14 June 2017. It was never a realistic option.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed:  JASON ALLDAY.

Dated: 07/11/2018.